

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-3, 5-6, 8, 12, 14, 20-22, and 24-28 have been amended, claims 4, 7, 10, 13, 15, and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1-3, 5-6, 8, 12, 14, 20-22, and 24-28 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph [0064] and FIG. 3. Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited art shows the electrode tab configuration, as recited in amended claims 1, 8, 14, and 20. Moreover, as noted in paragraph [0064], having the electrode tabs in such configuration improves the current collection efficiency as compared to the prior art configurations such as those described in Sugita et al. (U.S. Patent 6,432,578 B1) and/or Narukawa et al. (U.S. Patent 5,508,122), and there is no suggestion that such an advantage would be achieved using the recited configuration. As such, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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